

## Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 01628 251915Z

51

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 DODE-00 OIC-04 IO-14 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /119 W

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R 251850Z MAR 74

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4804

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 3816

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1628

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: RESTRUCTURING OF NATO MINISTERIAL SESSIONS

1. IN MEMORANDUM (PO/74/27) SENT NATO DELS MARCH 22, DSYG PANSA PROPOSED ALLIES PLAN AGENDA AND STRUCTURE OF NEXT NATO FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING ALONG LINES OF REVISIONS SUGGESTED BY FRG WHICH U.S. HAS CONSISTENTLY SUPPORTED. TEXT OF MEMORANDUM FOLLOWS:

2. BEGIN TEXT

POSSIBLE RESTRUCTUREING OF MINISTERIAL COUNCIL DEBATES

1. SINCE THE MEETING IN COPENHAGEN LAST JUNE, THE QUESTION OF THE FORM OF MINISTERIAL MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL HAS BEEN DISCUSSED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS. THE MAIN PURPOSE HAS BEEN TO SEE IF WAYS CAN BE FOUND TO BRING ABOUT MORE EFFECTIVE DIALOGUE AT THE MEETINGS. MOST RECENTLY, THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC RAISED THE MATTER IN HIS LETTER OF 11TH FEBRUARY, WHICH WAS TAKEN UP AT THE MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL ON 13TH FEBRUARY, 27TH FEBRUARY, AND 14TH MARCH.

2. THE PRINCIPAL RECOMMENDATION WHICH HAS EMERGED IS  
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PAGE 02 NATO 01628 251915Z

THAT WE SHOULD SEEK TO FOCUS MINISTERIAL DEBATE MORE SPECIFICALLY AROUND INDIVIDUAL AGENDA ITEMS, WITH MORE SPONTANEOUS INTERVENTIONS FOR WHICH ADDITIONAL INTERPRETATION COULD BE PROVIDED AS NECESSARY. THESE ARRENGEMENTS SHOULD NOT HOWEVER

RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF ANY MINISTER SO WISHING MAKING A  
GENERAL STATEMENT, THOUGH IT IS THE UNANIMOUS VIEW THAT THE  
OVERALL LENGTH OF MINISTERIAL MEETINGS SHOULD NOT BE INCREASED.  
A FURTHER IDEA WHICH HAS BEEN ADVANCED AND TO WHICH EFFECT  
MIGHT BE GIVEN BY ANY MINISTER WHO WISHES, IS THAT SOME  
STATEMENTS COULD BE CIRCULATED IN WRITING IN ADVANCE IN ORDER  
TO SAVE TIME AT THE MEETING ITSELF.

3. I ACCORDINGLY PROPOSE THAT WE SHOULD PLAN THE  
AGENDA AND STRUCTURE OF THE NEXT FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING  
WITH THESE VIEWS IN MIND.

END TEXT  
RUMSFELD

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 11 JUN 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974ATO01628  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** NATO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740381/abbrytyi.tel  
**Line Count:** 70  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** n/a  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10 APR 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <10 APR 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <03-Sep-2002 by garlanwa>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** RESTRUCTURING OF NATO MINISTERIAL SESSIONS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, NATO  
**To:** STATE INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005